

PREDICTING FLASH FLOODS AND DEBRIS FLOWS IN FOREST FIRE BURN AREAS



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Overview

- Coordination Efforts
- Weather Forecasting Technology
- History of Events (2001-2010)

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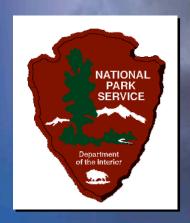








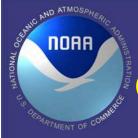






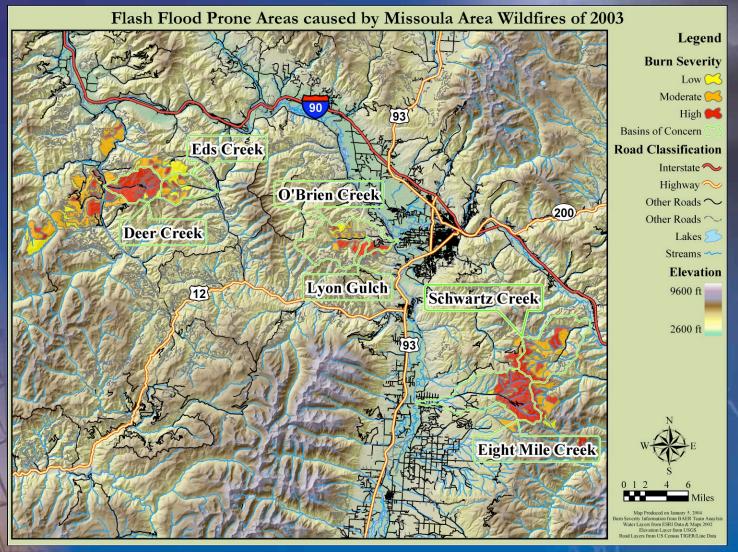


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BAER Teams











Blackcat Burn Area near Missoula 2007

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Early Warning Precipitation Gage in Lyons Gulch Burn Area near Missoula 2003









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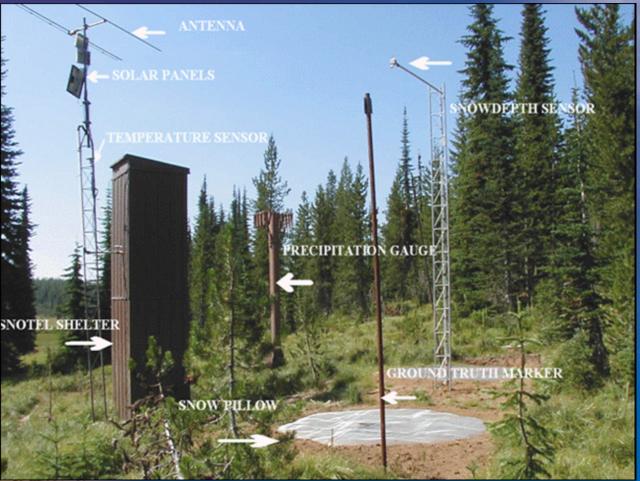






Remote Automated Weather Station in Glacier National Park - 2003





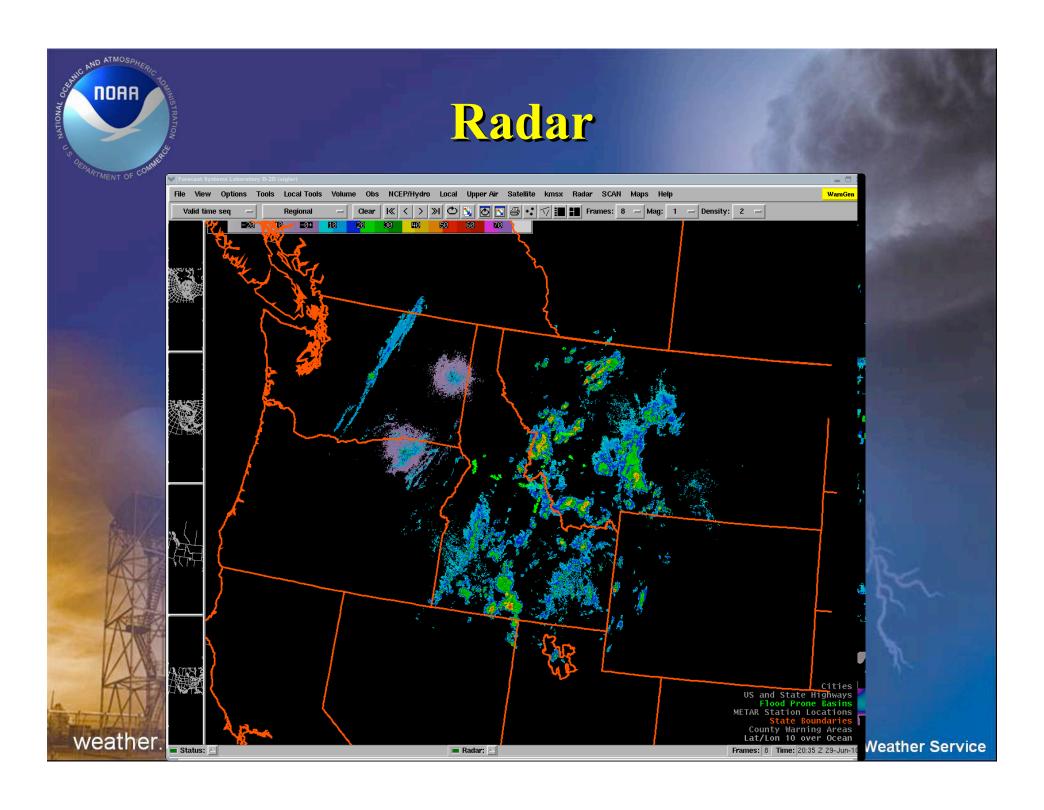


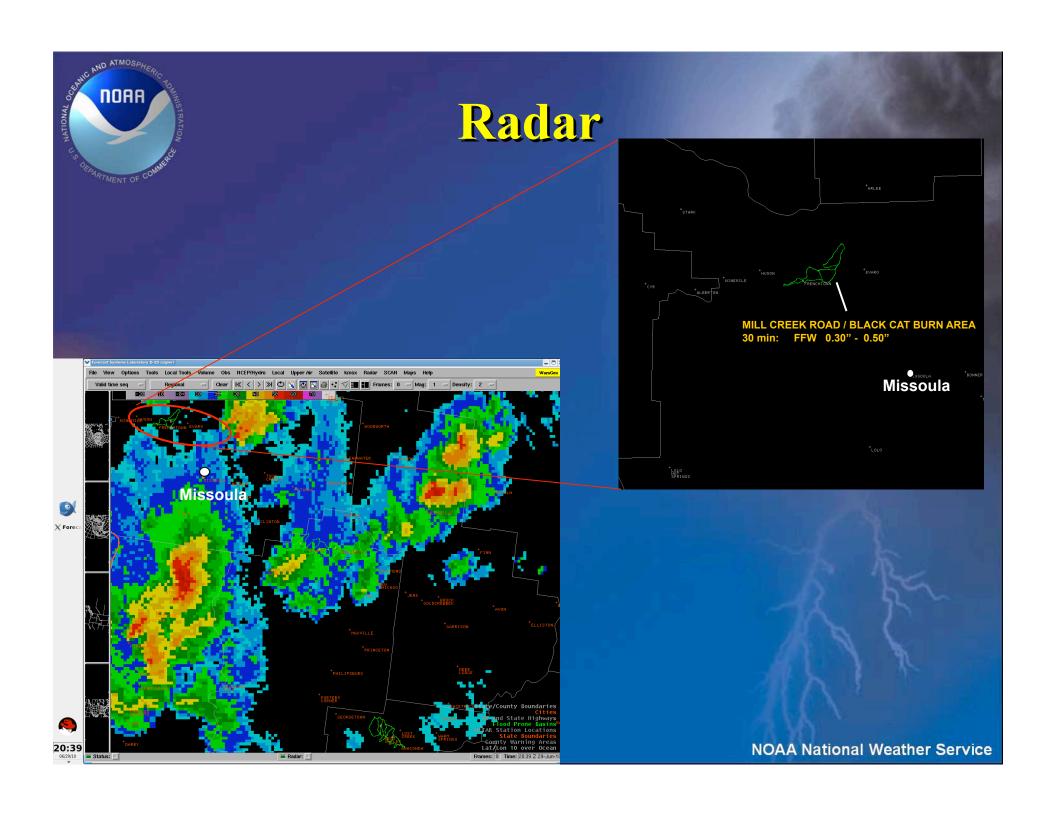
SNOTEL Site

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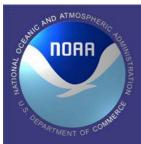




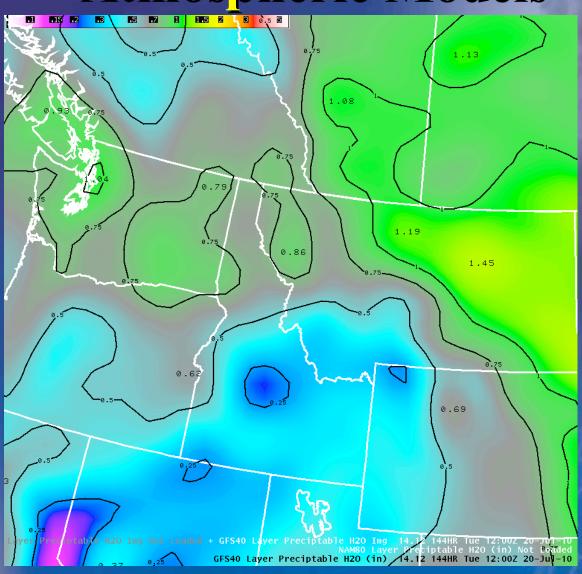




NOAA Radar Rainfall Estimates _ - × File View Options Tools Local Tools Volume Obs NCEP/Hydro Local Upper Air Satellite kmsx Radar SCAN Maps Help WarnGen √/ ■ ■ Frames: 64 — Mag: 1 — Density: 1 — CWA **Config Summary** Jul 27 09 02:30 GMT iap: 0.00 Time Duration(hrs.) 21.00 24.00 MT,MISSOULA RFCFFG RFCFFG RFCFFG RATE DIFF Woodchuck Creek 0.92 M Middle Eight Mile Creek 0.01 0.83 M Lower Mill Creek, Frencht 0.00 0.74 North Woodchuck Creek Clark Fork River between 0.02 0.65 Lyon Gulch and Lower O' M M Upper Davis Creek 0.00 0.63 M M Dry Gulch Stream M Clark Fork River between 0.05 0.62 Μ М Unnamed drainage to Clar FFMP Color Image Mon 02:30Z 27-Jul-09 + Scale 5 Hi Res Topo →:: 03:20 Z 27-Jul-09 | Service FF = 👺 🌠 🕸 c 04:58 PM (4) |ANNOUNCER: vb has been started successfully.

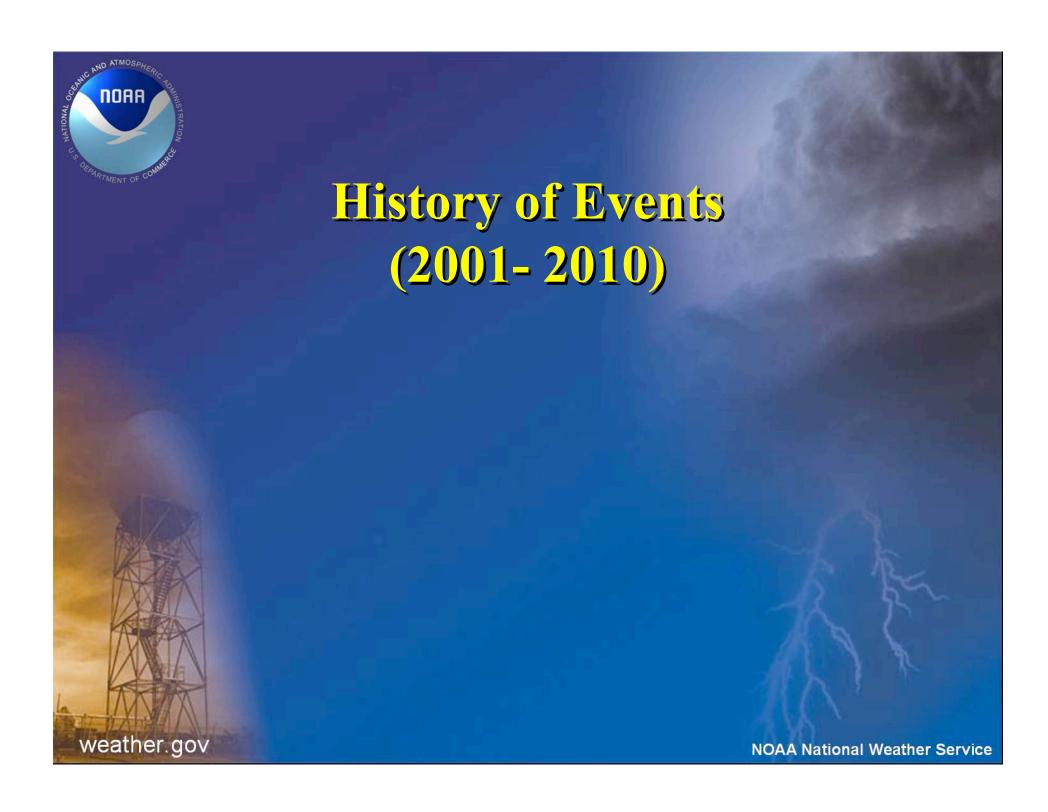


Atmospheric Models



Precipitable water around 1 inch

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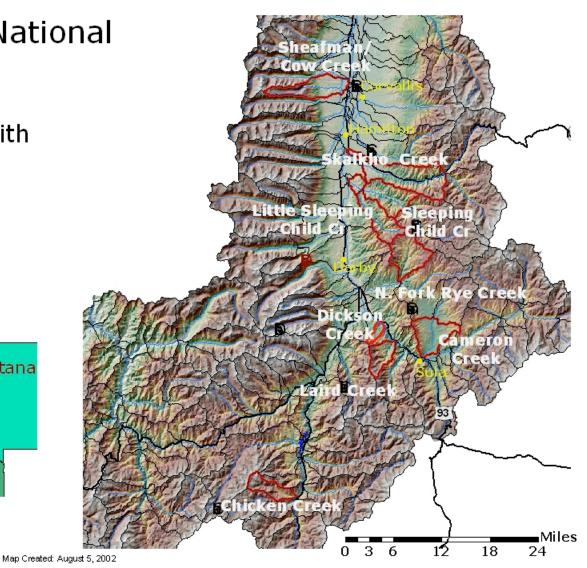
Bitterroot National Forest Fires of 2000 Watersheds with Burned Areas

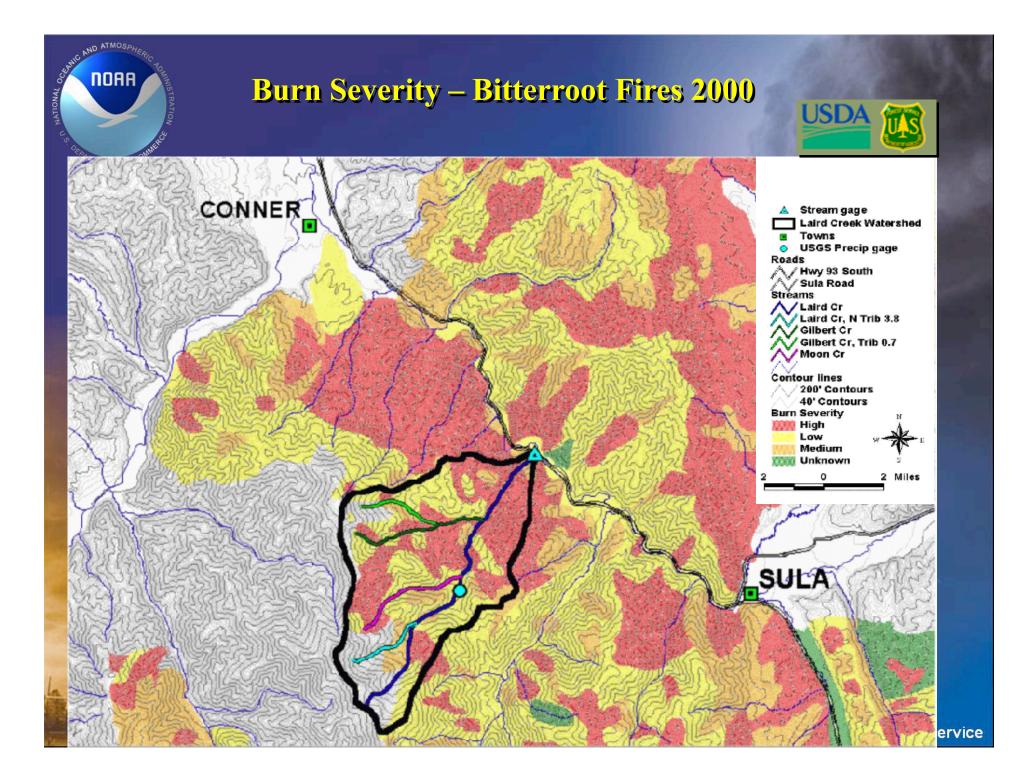


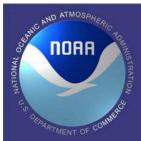
Area of Concern



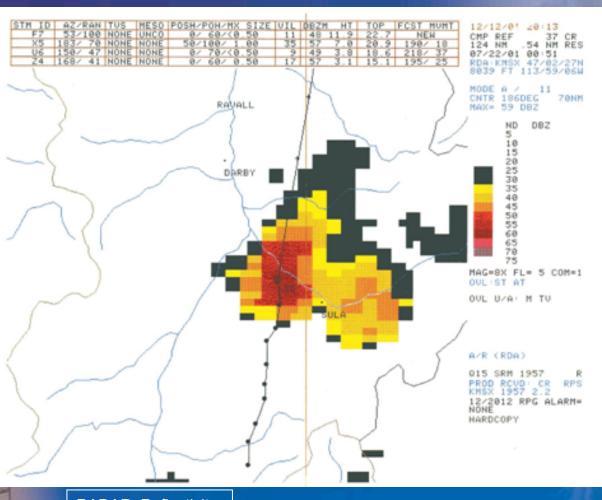








Thunderstorm hits Laird Creek July 2001

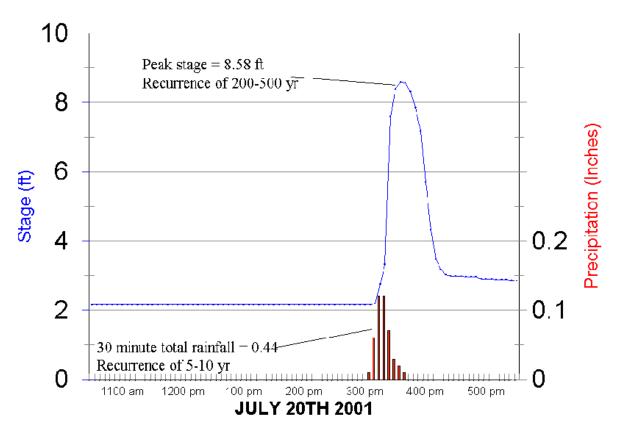


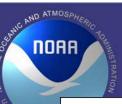
RADAR Reflectivity



LAIRD CREEK - FLASH FLOOD

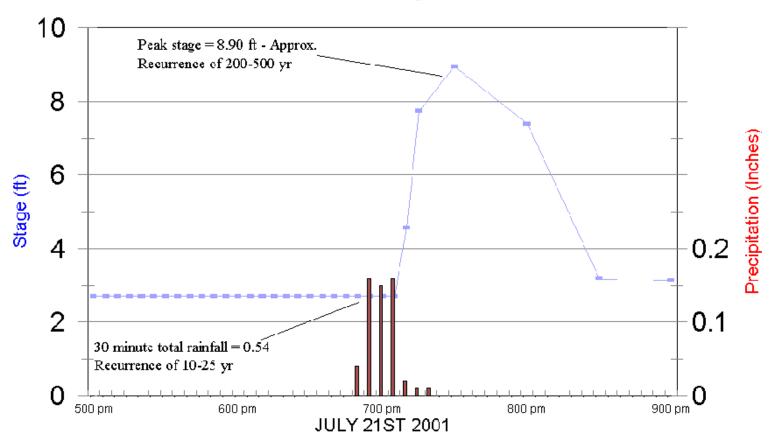
Rainfall & Stage Data

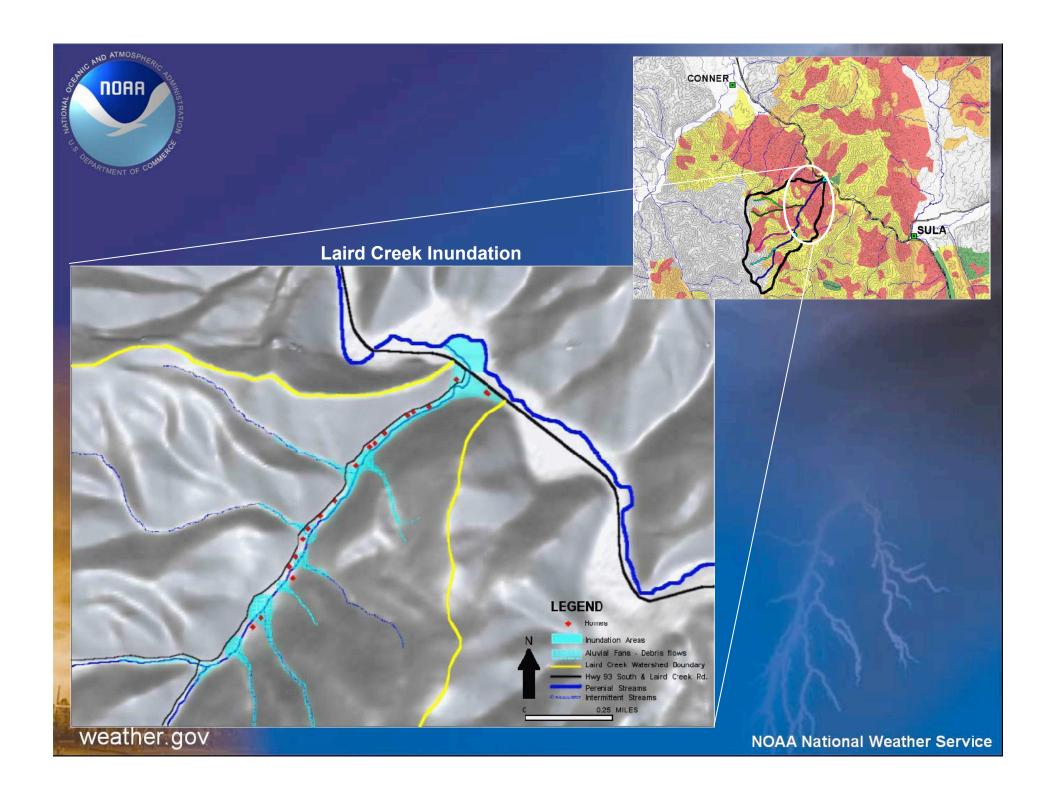


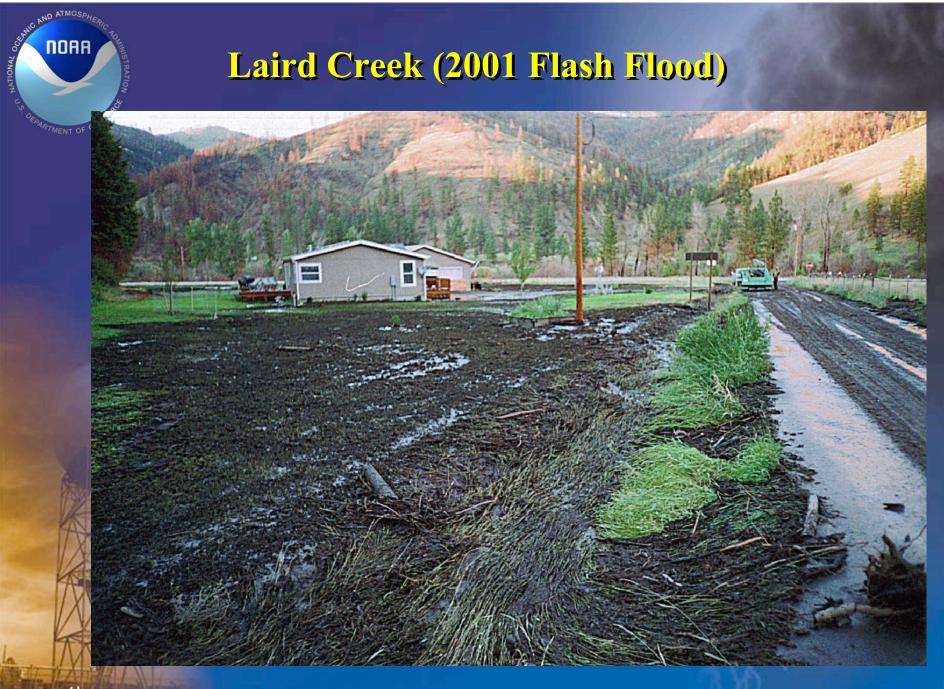


LAIRD CREEK - FLASH FLOOD

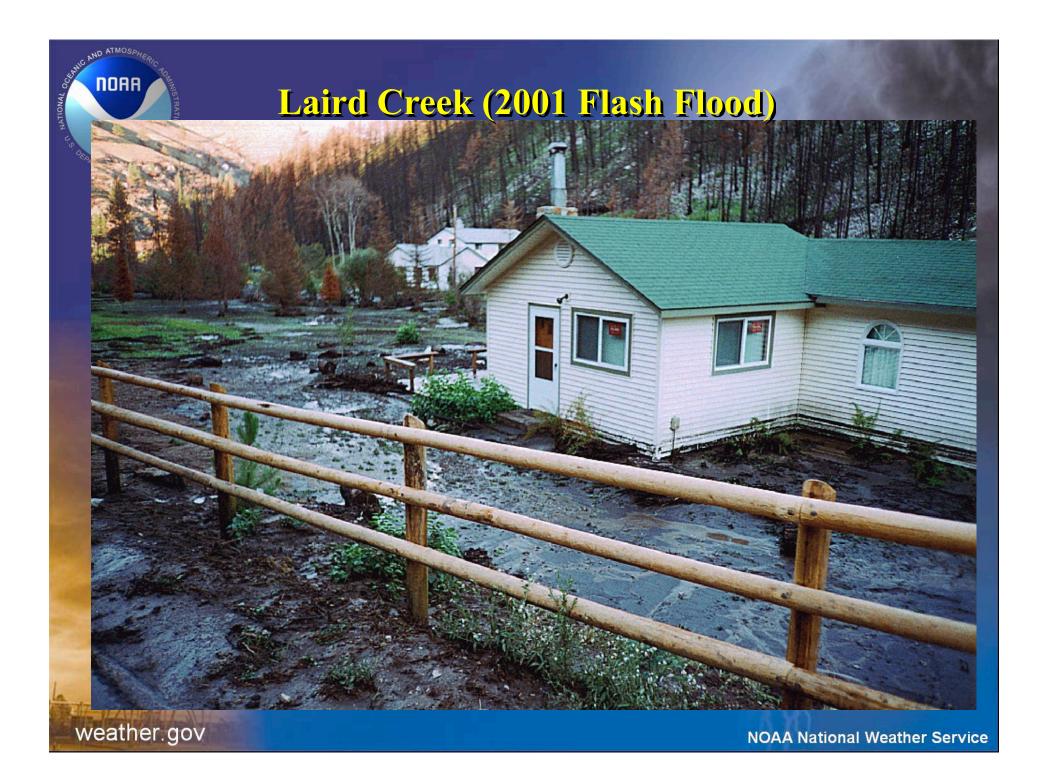
Rainfall & Stage Data

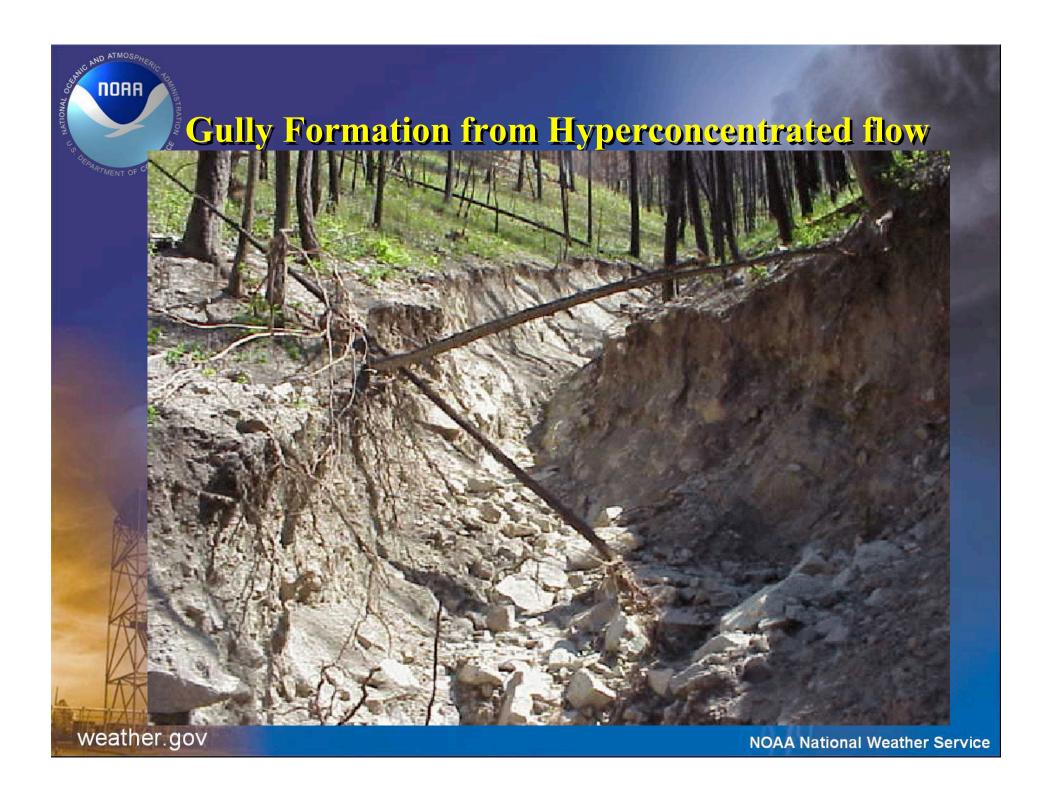


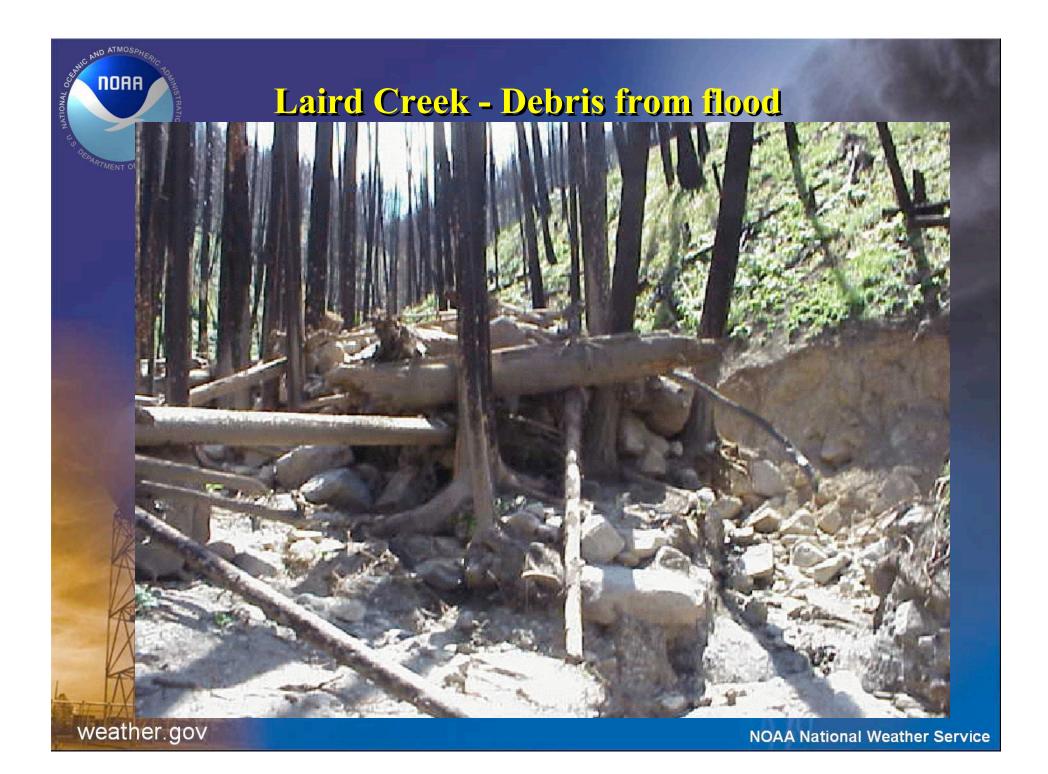


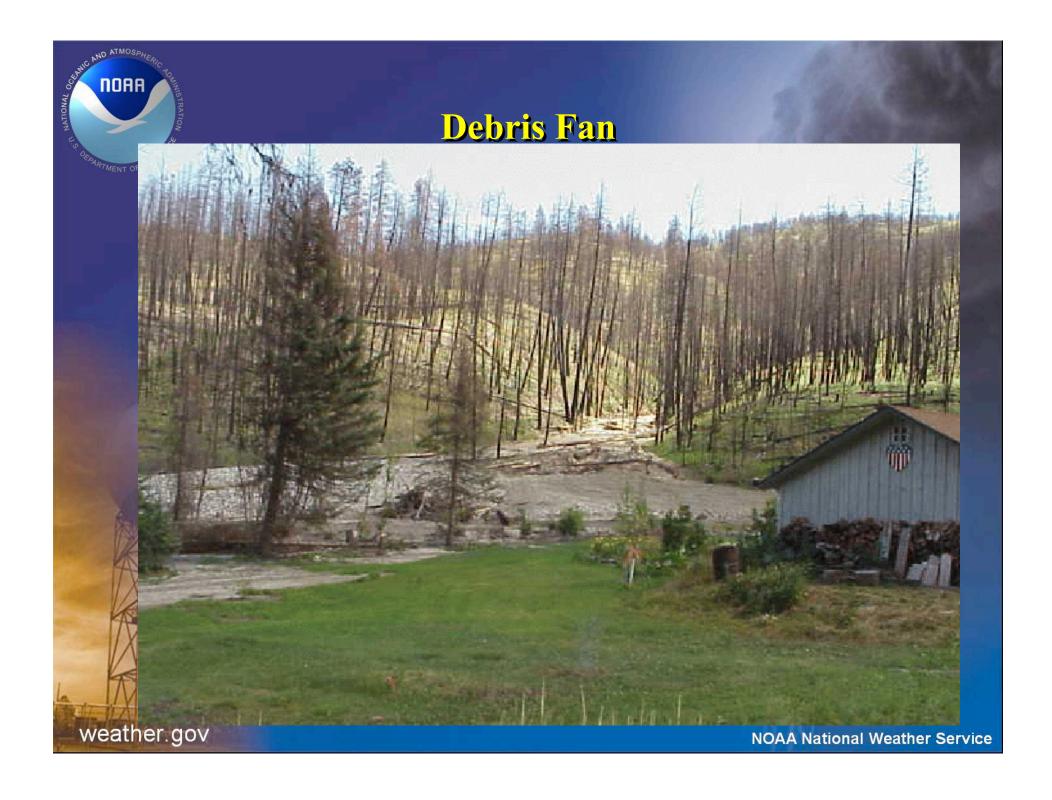


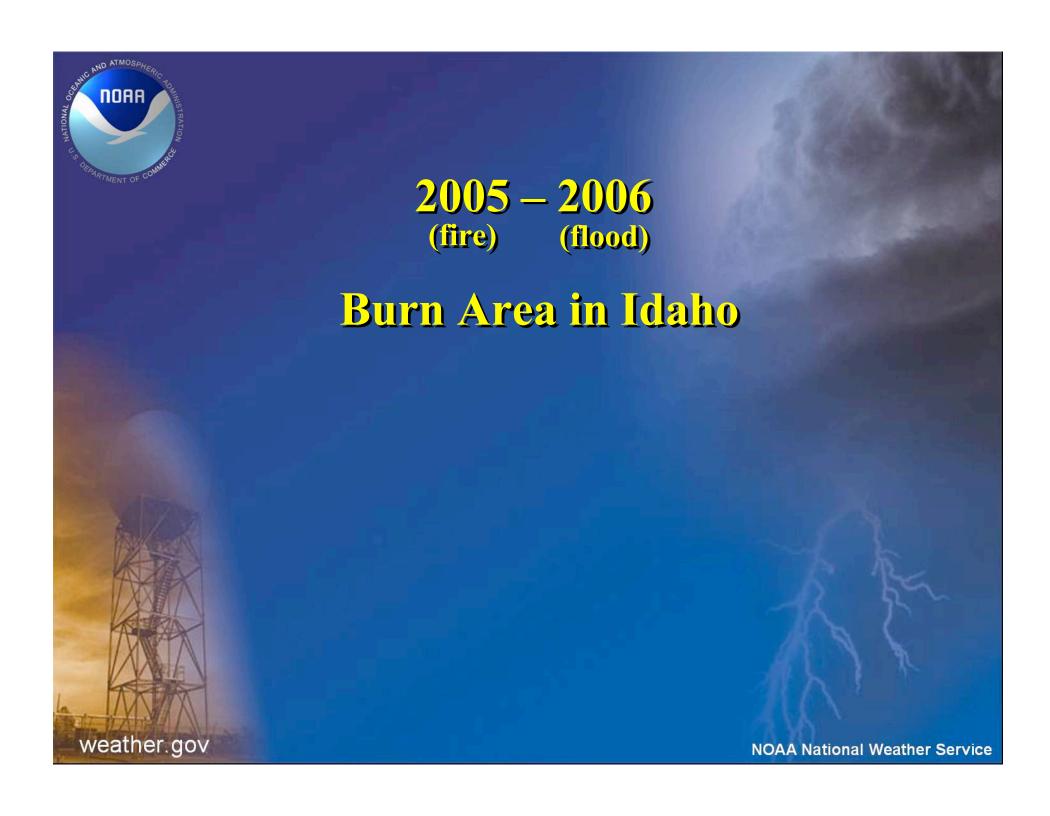
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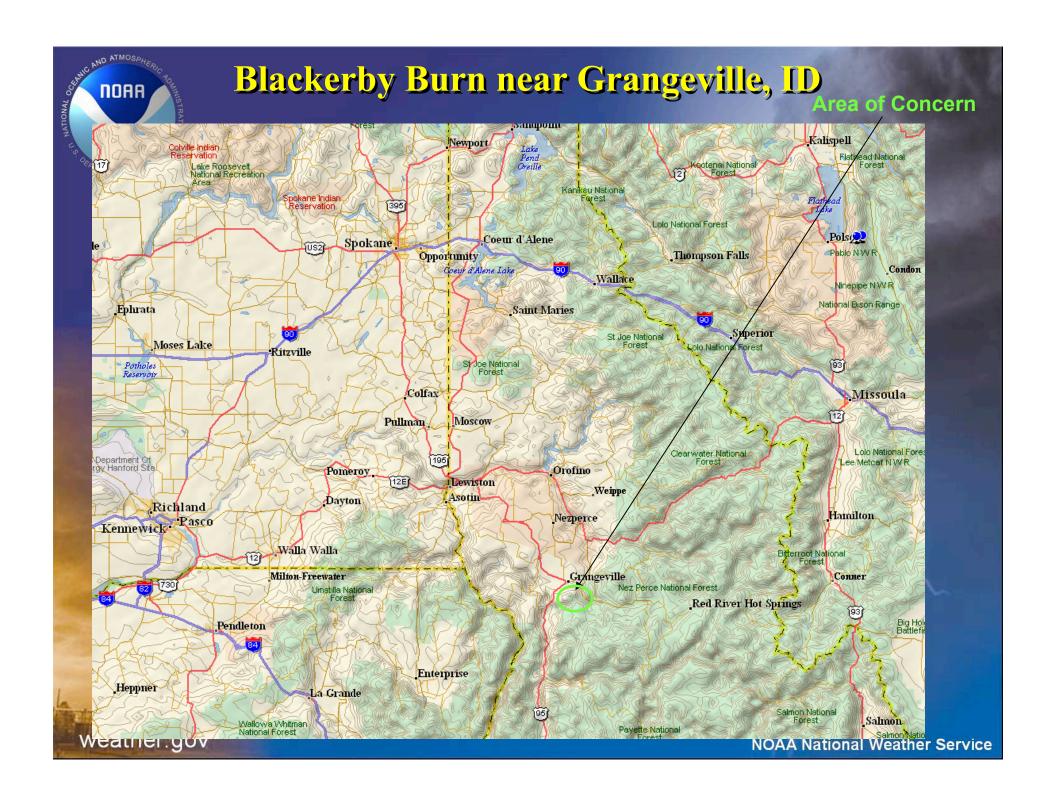


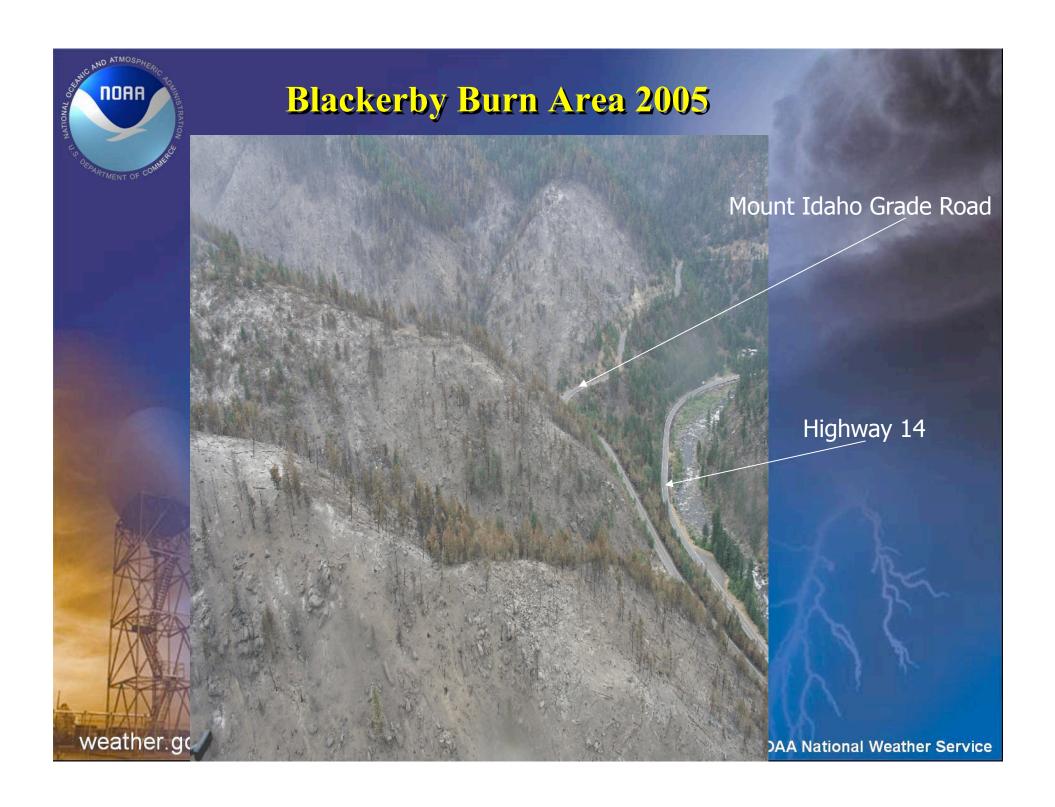


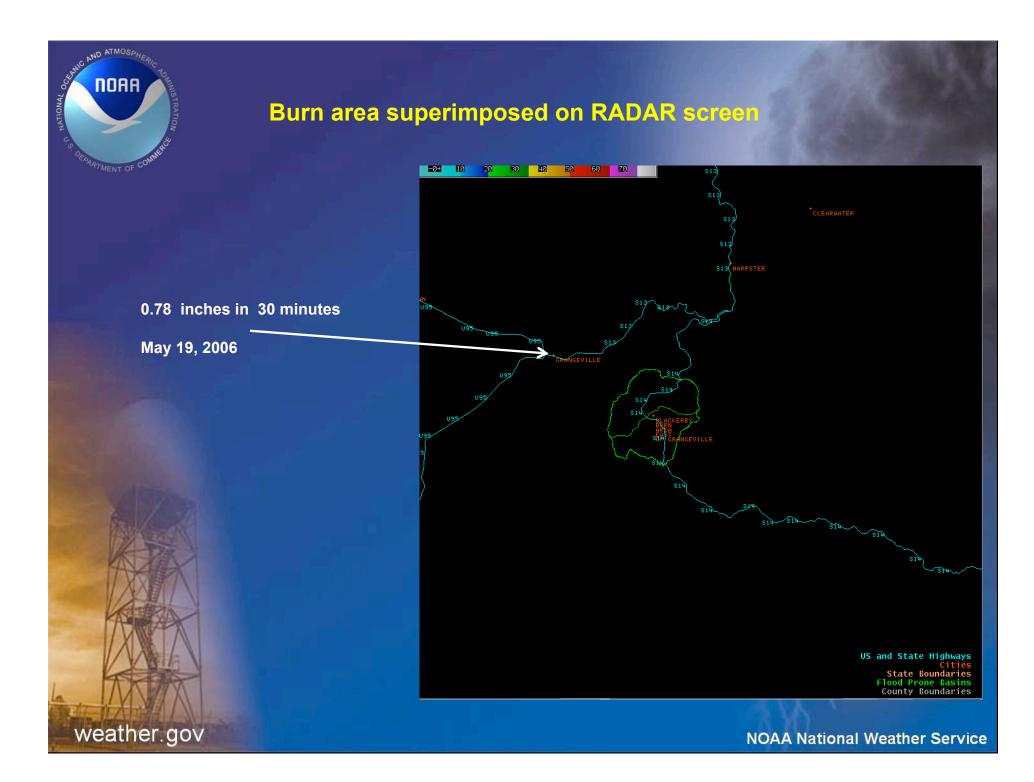




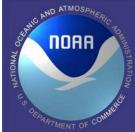








Blackerby Burn area debris flow 5/19/2006 weather.gov



Small Debris flow from Blackerby Burn area near Grangeville, ID (5/19/06)



Highway 14

weather.gov

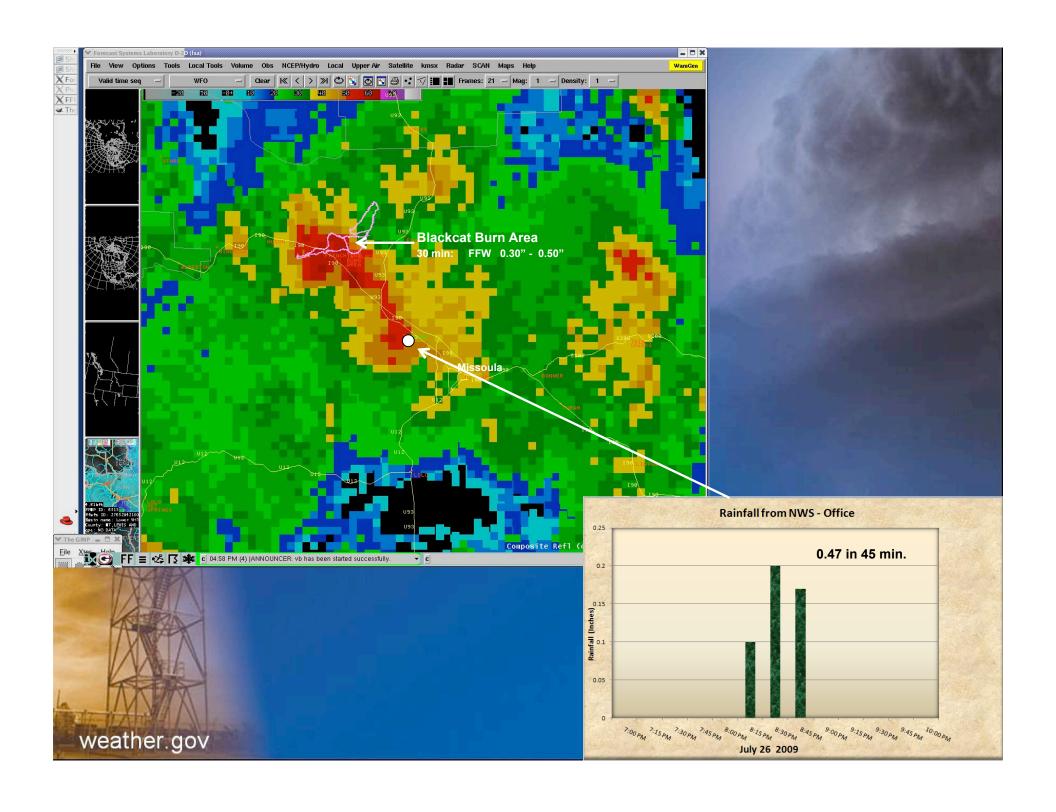


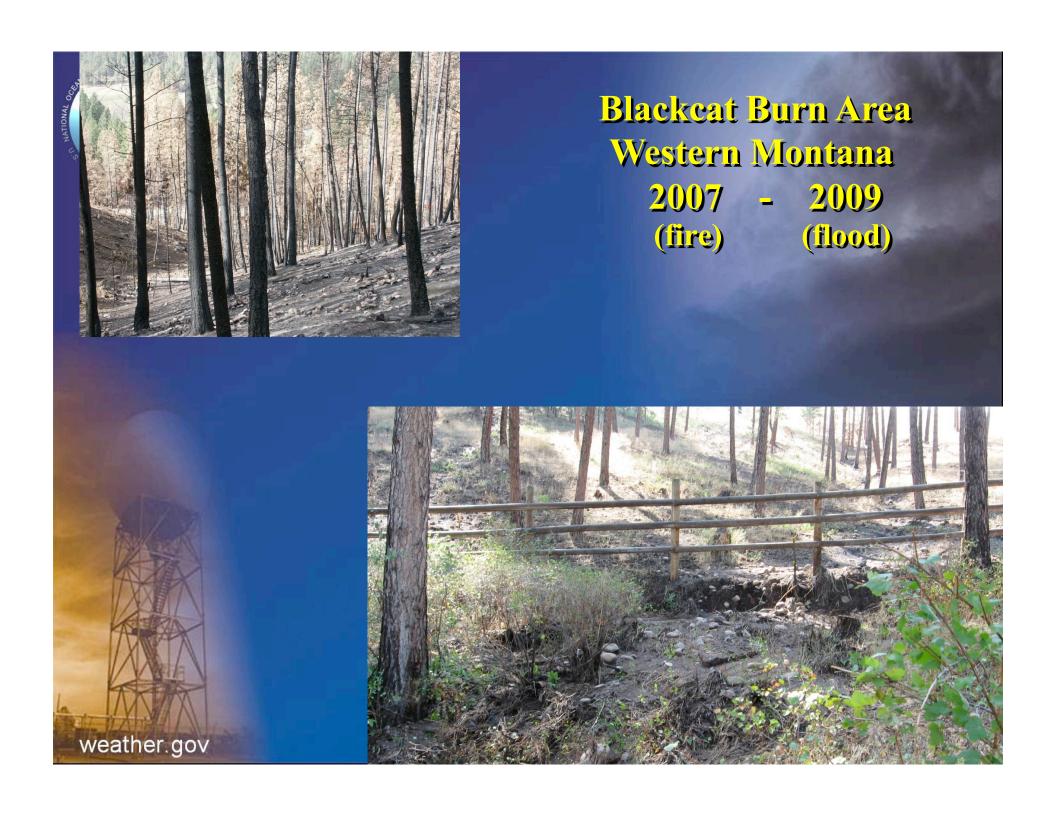
 $\begin{array}{c} 2007-2009 \\ \text{(fire)} & \text{(flood)} \end{array}$

Blackcat Burn Area – Western, MT

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Summary

Agency coordination needed.

















- NWS offices need preparation work done.
 - Establish Flash Flood Rainfall criteria
 - Expand spotter precipitation network
 - Get word out to affected public



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